

# 2004 Report of Accomplishments

## Othello Conservation District



### Natural Resource Improvements in 2004 - Summary

- *Instrumental in Irrigation Water Management being applied to approximately 100,000 acres of commercial farming.*
- *In access of 300,000 gallons of water saved per acre would equal approximately 50,000 acre feet of water across the District.*
- *IWM also saves approximately \$5.00 per acre in power cost or approximately \$500,000 in power savings.*
- *Management of irrigation water thru IWM has reduced the aquifer contamination of drinking water significantly in this area.*  
*Dropping the average of wells above federal drinking standards from 23% down to 22%.*



### Mission of the Othello Conservation District

- *To represent and assist cooperators to adopt, implement, and promote conservation practices.*

### Basic Funding

- *Provide services to local cooperators when other funding is not available.*
- *Coordination with other funding sources such as GWMA, NRCS and the Othello Sandhill Crane Festival.*

### Local Funding

- *City of Othello Hotel/Motel 2% tourism tax funding for the Sandhill Crane Festival.*
- *Funding from the Ground Water Management Area for various projects.*

### Dairy

- *All nine of the dairy nutrient plans were approved certified and have had follow-up visits.*
- *Worked to create a nutrient management plan for a new large dairy approximately 4,000 cows.*
- *Dairy technician has worked with 7 large CAFOs and numerous AFOs to fulfill their NPDS permit requirements and or make corrections due to water quality concerns.*
- *Continues to participate with the Livestock Influenced Water Quality Task Force (LIWQT) on developing recommendations and strategies related to the WA State AFO/CAFO regulations.*

### Community Collaboration & Coordination

- *Coordinated the seventh annual Othello Sandhill Crane Festival, a local environmental festival attracting in excess of 1,500 participants.*
- *This activity is in conjunction with approximately 30,000 Sandhill cranes migrating through our area.*
- *Othello CD Supervisors provide guide service for visiting participants during the Sandhill Crane Festival.*
- *District employees coordinate year-round the Sandhill Crane Festival and its business activities.*

### Information & Education

- *Worked with GWMA and adjoining CD's to support Water on Wheels program in our area, which teaches approximately a third of our school children within our District of approximately 10,000 within the tri-counties.*

## Washington Conservation Districts assisting land managers with their conservation choices